

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- This invention is in the area of pharmaceutical chemistry, and in particular, is a compound, method and composition for the treatment of hepatitis C virus. This application is a continuation of U.S. application no. 09/864,078, filed on May 23, 2001, which claims priority to U.S. provisional application no. 60/206,585, filed on May 23, 2000, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference.--